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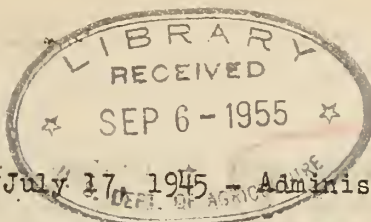
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RSPD Digest

WESTERN REGION

No. 6... July 17, 1945 - Administrative Use ONLY



REPORT ROUNDUP

We see as one of the more important departments of the DIGEST a highlighted roundup of weekly reports from the field. However, to serve its purpose DIGEST must be mailed out Tuesday night. Weekly reports to be excerpted must be in here Tuesday morning's mail. It is now 10 a.m. Tuesday morning and no reports - if any come in before the last page is mimeographed we'll get them briefed and included.

KIDS MUST EAT

Washington is very interested in getting any reaction to the Quiz Kids School Lunch short - but particularly inquiries for information from prospective sponsors as a result of seeing the movie. Give this some thought and let us know by July 26.

EXTENSION COOPERATION

Your replies to question of present Extension cooperation summed up to "relation cooperative but we haven't asked them for much help." However, still to be heard from are Utah, Arizona and Montana. We are working to draft an approach.

FAT SALVAGE

To garner the most benefit out of the Fat Salvage work being done in the field request has gone forward to Spoor to get the following info included in your weekly report.

- 1) Brief activity of the WPB, particularly on ideas you have given them or mutually arrived at in your meetings with the WPB staff members.
- 2) Follow same reporting of Extension activities.
- 3) Highlight information on work of other agencies (ODT, OPA) or organizations, (PTA, Chamber of Commerce) cooperating with you in the program.
- 4) A brief of problems encountered in collections, specific instances, short explanation of manner solved; and specific requests for the definite type of help from us you want or can use.
- 5) Forward copies of any bulletins or other materials sent out by other agencies on Fat Salvage. Tear sheets or any other newspaper clippings should also accompany this report.
- 6) Make the report show what's going on in the field.

Collection reports are coming in fine. Congratulations and thanks. If you wish, include the monthly collection report in the weekly report for the 1st or 2nd week of each month.

POULTRY FREEZE

The rumor of certainty that a national poultry freeze would be announced practically immediately has now died down to just a rumor that such an idea is in the mill and it may be announced sometime in the near future. Chicago meet of poultry interests and USDA has been postponed for at least a week, probably be held before month is out. Tentative plans is that following national meeting OMS will hold area meetings at Salt Lake, San Francisco, Fresno, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Spokane. Whether OS state offices assist is yet to be determined but if so will be primarily on arranging meeting details.

"A" AWARDS

Response has been swell - from some offices - to our request for clips, scripts, pix and programs as well as a narrative account of the event when an "A" Award ceremony is held. Impresses Washington. But not to the point apparently where they are completely out of complaints. Most recent is three pronged:
1- occasional delay of some state offices in wiring Washington name, rank and address of Navy speaker; 2 - delay in forwarding Report on Original Contact;*
3 - delay in forwarding final reports on the ceremony.

POULTRY PRIORITY

Hospital chicken deal seems to deserve some comment. In the mill is news release wherein Spoor appreciates cooperation of trade in voluntarily supplying without OS need to resort to priority. "If this is NOT condition your state wire us. Story will be sent you for localization, fill-in, etc., and release to press."

FOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Spoor will pat committees on back via congratulatory letter on past fiscal year's cooperation. Letter probably be sent you for presentation at next meeting. Also news release covering subject. Roper worked out a good plan - gets Chronicle reporter to cover meeting letting Roper see advance story and make suggestions. This tied-in with patter story we will now send you in advance each meeting fills the bill. How about covering the meeting yourself in the weekly broadcast?

DISNEY FILM

"Something You Didn't Eat" is being distributed to movie houses through Warner Bros. The local W. B. office or film exchange can inform you on dates of local showing. Washington requested us to have state offices check on the hour the short was being shown throughout their states. Instead we post-carded the theaters as being simpler.

SALTED FISH - WFO 72 in amendment effective July 10 permits qualified importers of salt fish to import from Canada at 60 percent of 1942, Newfoundland 65 percent of combined 1942 import from Newfoundland and Iceland.

FROZEN FISH - USDA is not in complete accord with Interior's statement of acute shortage prediction. DA fishermen feel statement premature, disturbing to market.

*FLASH -- Form FDA 569 no longer need be mailed in. Wire only.

FATS & OILS - Lard production will be about 100 million pounds larger in the spring and summer of 1946 than in the spring and summer this year. Lard production will continue less than a year earlier through the coming winter. Output of greases also is likely to be larger in the spring and summer of 1946 than this year. Military requirements for fats and oils probably will be less in 1946 than in 1945, as a result of reductions in the size of the armed forces and in the number of prisoners. Consumer income will be reduced somewhat in 1946, assuming that the general price level remains comparatively steady. However, civilian supplies of most fats and oils during most of 1946 probably will continue smaller than the quantity consumers are able and willing to buy at prevailing prices.

Stocks of fats and oils on May 1 were the lowest for that date in many years, and will decline seasonally until crushing of 1945 crops of oilseeds gets under way in volume this fall. Factory and warehouse stocks of fats and oils on May 1, the latest reported, totaled 1,823 million pounds (crude basis) compared with 2,709 million lbs. a year earlier. The principal reductions from last year were in stocks of lard, inedible tallow and greases, linseed oil, and soybean oil. Production of soap in 1944, including soap for use in manufacturing synthetic rubber and other non-soap products, apparently was the largest on record. Output of soap has declined this year, because of reduced supplies of fats and rosin. With military procurement and manufacturing uses of soap expected to remain relatively large, the supply of fats and oils available for civilian soap probably will be about 15% less in 1945 than in 1944. Use of rosin in civilian soap has been limited since February to 25% of the 1944 rate of use.

Net exports of fats and oils, including oilseeds and fat-and-oil products in terms of oil, totaled 650 million lbs. in 1944, slightly more than in 1943. The U.S. will continue in 1945 to export substantially more fats and oils than it imports, but is likely to return to a net importing basis after the war.

SUGAR - well covered in Fact Sheet and Sugar Statistics, both sent you.

MILK CANS - WFO 104 now inoperative, cancels both rationing and state distribution rules.

SPINACH DRIED MILK SET-ASIDE - when order is signed spray process nonfat dry milk solids set aside will be 70 percent August, 60 percent September, is 75 percent now.

CAL GRAPES - transportation difficulties may encourage maximum processing of grapes in California. Program being given thought.

OILS FOR CANNED FISH - amendment 17 to WFO 42 limits use of quota free vegetable oils for fish canning to tuna, bonito, yellow tail and sardines.

FSL SUMMARY - Last week's FSLs offered for sale:

Off-Grade Spinach, Canned Peas, Off-Condition Seed Beans, Pea Beans, Rye Grass Seed, Canned Tomatoes, Dry Pea Beans, Egg Sweepings, Canned Lemon Juice, Soya Bean Oil, Boiled Linseed Oil and Off-Condition Canned Pork Sausage.

SENT TO FIELD - pamphlets, etc, sent out from this office:

Farmers Look at Post War Prospects...What Peace Can Mean to American Farmers...Direct Distribution Activities...Food Information Calendar...Poster-Watch Out-Farm Safety...Marketing Activities...State & County Office Instructions on Beef Cattle Production...Farm Opportunities...Post-War Re-Adjustments...Making the Most of Meats in Industrial Feeding...Home Canning of Fruits and Vegetables...Victory Garden Insect Guide...Vitamins from Farm to You...Green Vegetables in Wartime Meals...Pickles & Relish Recipes...How to Prepare Fruits and Vegetables for Freezing...National Wartime Nutrition Guide...Cut Food Waste...Family Food Plans for Good Nutrition...Eat A Good Breakfast...Fats In Wartime Meals...Victory Garden Handbook...Food for Two...Growing Vegetables in Town and Country...Making Velva Fruit at Home...TOTAL - 29,250 in all.

LAMB - The CCC Board of Directors has approved a docket, providing a program for the purchase of low grade lambs in Oregon and Washington. Insistent requests from cooperatives and others that something be done to take care of a lot of low grade lambs which, according to these folks, will be flooding the markets soon, has resulted in the preparation of a docket authorizing the purchase of 700,000 pounds of Utility and Cull grade lamb and mutton. As the docket is now written, all meat purchased under the program would be used domestically---none for export. OMS wrote it but CCC would do the buying. Purchases would include frozen telescoped carcasses, as well as boneless meat. Checking on evidence for the need of such a program, Market News Service revealed: The market at Portland is fully steady. About 75 percent of the lambs coming to market are making the three top grades. There is an active feeder market. Yards are clearing satisfactorily and no serious marketing difficulties have arisen as yet. To the Market News folks, the unknown in the equation is the number of lambs out in the country. When given final approval, the docket may be put on ice, to be used if and when.

LESS CORN? - Some rather doleful predictions of food shortages are following on the heels of the July 10 crop report which estimated a 543-million-bushel reduction in the corn crop. Neglected in these predictions are some of the following facts: 1- The reduction is given in the July 1 estimate -- which is naturally conservative. 2- The reduction is from last year's record crop of 3,228,361,000 bushels. The 1934-43 average production was 2,433,060,000 bushels, about 200 million bushels under the July 10 estimate for 1945 of 2,685,328,000 bushels. 3- The carry-over of corn on October 1 this year will be considerably larger than the carry-over a year ago--possibly by 200 million bushels. 4- A record wheat crop of 1,128,690,000 bushels is estimated for 1945, and some of this wheat will be used for poultry and livestock feed. The oat crop, estimated at 1,418,993,000 bushels, is about 300 million bushels larger than that of a year ago. The barley crop, estimated at 255,671,000 bushels, is 30 million bushels under the crop a year ago. The conclusion is that the situation is not too serious. The estimated supply of feed is about in line with the estimated requirements - adequate for the number of livestock units expected to feed. At least no serious feed shortage is indicated at this time.

ABUNDANT FOODS - Here's how the abundant food picture looks nationally:

Cabbage - USDA has authorization to initiate a purchase program for cabbage in four New England States (N.J., N.Y., Conn., and Mass.). Purchases will be used largely for institutional distribution, if action is taken. However, it may not be necessary to step in, as the crop movement has picked up from the recent slump, and commercial channels may be able to handle things from here on out.

Beets - Although beets are "plentiful" in the four States named above, no USDA buying has been necessary as yet. Beets are selling fairly well through normal trade channels now, and present indications point to continuation along those lines.

Peaches - Georgia: Such a splendid information job on Georgia peaches that USDA has not yet had to take any purchase action to date to help move the bumper crop in the 10 Southern States. However, the peak period is yet to come, so authorization to purchase, approved by CCC Board of Directors last week, is all set, should purchases become necessary. Also, a freight subsidy docket has been approved, but this method of aid to shippers will be used only if absolutely necessary. Incidentally, P&PS (Washington) is beaming approval of the Propaganda of the Peach, and even beamed some right into Maycock's office the other day. Local use of the fruit has been "phenomenal", they say, due directly to appeals for home canning and other preservation, and to excellent trade participation.

Peaches - California: No big consumer push on the California crop is anticipated and need for any CCC cling purchase dependent on cannery labor situation and outlook hopeful. Season ten days late, clings start August 1-5 reach peak 15-20. Fruit less but larger. Clings down 1,300,000 bushels from 20,500,000 1944 crop; Freestones down 1,500,000 bushels from 13,500,000 1944 crop. Freestones expected move satisfactorily into fresh market. HOWEVER RSPD is readying a consumer campaign to hold if and when needed.

Idaho Potato Harvest Wages: Maximum wage ceiling rates effective July 14 for harvesting potatoes in 10 Idaho counties are: 1) Picking potatoes - 10 to 22 cents per 100-pound sack depending upon yield per acres from 200 to an acre down to 69 or less per acre. 2) Loading potatoes, consisting of loading in field from ground to carrier 2 cents per 100-pound sack. 3) Bucking potatoes, consisting of loading in field from ground to carrier transporting to point of unloading and return to field for reloading--4 cents per 100-pound sack.

The Idaho USDA Wage Board, located in room 521, Idaho Building, Boise, will have charge.

Farm Wages Washington State: Maximum wage ceiling rates effective July 17, for wheat harvesting in five counties, in Washington State are: 1) General farm labor -- \$10 per day plus board. 2) Wheat harvest labor: a) Combine operator-- \$20 per day plus board. b) Tractor driver - \$12 per day plus board. c) Header tender -- \$10 per day plus board. d) Sack sower -- \$12 per day plus board. e) Sack jigger -- \$10 per day plus board. f) Truck driver -- \$10 per day plus board.

The Washington USDA Wage Board, located at 235 Liberty Bldg., Yakima, Washington, will have charge of administration.

Fat Salvage - Washington, D. C.

"We are pleased to note from your reports how many new avenues of approach for plugging Fat Salvage are being developed weekly. The lengthening stream of requests for envelope stuffers pouring into Washington is tribute to your concentrated and unceasing promotion. Even the Social Security Board has been asked to insert Fat Salvage stuffers in their envelopes which carry public assistance checks.

"I'm sure you all appreciate, that thoroughness and repetition are the important factors in any successful campaign. You may get tired of preaching the same gospel to the same people, but if you don't keep the need constantly before them, some of your first "converts" may decide they can relax and let the fat go... to waste.

"Sometime ago we asked that you send us 35 copies of your dittoed or mimeographed monthly Fat Salvage Reports. Since you were cutting stencils on these anyway, we thought you might as well send us enough to attach to our report and cut down on the duplicating here in the Washington office. The reports have become so popular that we now have to have 50 copies made. So, in the future, will you please up your offerings to 50. Also, whenever you find what you think is a particularly good release or other piece of promotion, please send it along in lots of 50. An example of this is the release written by the Army Service Command and attached to the report by the Southern office a couple of weeks ago. Extension Service letters and releases often are worth attaching, too. -"Sandstrom

"A" Awards - Washington, D. C.

"A large number of "Star" awards are being processed and it is expected that they will be presented to the Board before the end of the month. By way of summary, the Achievement Award Board to date has granted 409 original "A" awards, with more than 218,000 employees now wearing the "A" award pin. After being screened in the Regional Offices, nominations for "A" awards are being received in Washington at a rate from 40 to 50 each month. While 24 plants have been granted the "Star" award, more than 90 nominations now pending.

"Final drawings on the three new "A" award mats have been completed and are ready for the printer. The mats will be 5 columns wide and more than half a page long -- the object being to assure that they will extend above the fold in the regulation size newspaper page.

"Regional reports on awards are mighty useful here - more power to you." - Sandstrom.

Summary of Price Support and Subsidy Programs

RSPD Washington is trying to rush through completion Price & Subsidy handbook and hope to get copies out within two weeks. Binders have been ordered and copy is being cleared by the Treasurer's Office now.

ANDERSON SPEAKS

Following is condensation of Secretary's speech July 11, 1945 - Advertising Federation America - N.Y.C.:

Part of our food problem is to decide how much food we can spare to the liberated countries. We must make it clear that we can't feed the world, but we must help prevent the starvation which, if allowed to continue, could bring on another world war.

To carry out its responsibilities effectively, the government needs the understanding and cooperation of the whole people. To gain this cooperation, government officials must give the people the true facts about food...where it is and where it is going, and the reasons for shortages.

Right now, demand for food exceeds supply. Even the all-time food production records set by America's farmers haven't been high enough to meet all demands. We must maintain abundant production, not only to meet present needs, but to store away for a possible lean year.

The government must protect farmers against surpluses by maintaining a price-support program for some time after the war. Food subsidies must be eliminated while demand and price are good.

Advertising has done a great deal to arouse and hold public interest in the government's program of production, preservation, consumption and fair-sharing of food. It is urged to redouble its efforts in continued appeals. Advertising also holds the key to increased consumption in the future. By creating desires and stimulating wants for better food, advertising can help prevent the conflict that might arise between the city worker and the farmer. With harmony between these groups, there will be a better chance to strengthen the partnership among government, industry agriculture and labor.

CONSUMER TIME

August 4 Consumer Time (9:15 A.M.P.M.T. Saturday morning) will be a remote pick up from the Western Regional Research Laboratory at Albany, California and will feature some of the achievements of this and the other 3 similar labs. We're writing the show here. Listen in and promote.

DIGEST REQUEST:

One copy of Digest being sent to each State and District Director's office and one to each OS regional division chief. If more copies are needed for administrative use or if any other OS field office should be on the list kindly let us know.

Highlights of field reports following pages.

ROUNDUP OF REPORTS

The Northwest made practically a clean sweep with reports from Flynn, Roper and Tulley coming in the same mail. In 3 pages Flynn covering meat packing, dairy and poultry processing and fruit and vegetable canning concludes that labor is the fulcrum, no cut backs anticipated, no new labor in sight and utilization of what's available as the answer. Meat: 6 federal inspected plants, 2 on high urgency and operating at capacity, others given referral consideration. Good knife man will work in industry rather than out of it even at some wage differential, although once in a while some may go to non-federal packers for more money. Office has certified all qualified knife men in federal plants and attempted to channel experienced labor to such plants. Dire effects on plants due to loss trained personnel to draft fail to be proved upon checkup. However, occasionally Army-Navy personnel work in plants but no POW or foreign workers have been allowed. Dairy & Poultry: High urgency on occasion to authorized poultry processors, dairy on national production urgency has lessened assignment of local priority ratings for condoneries and milk drying plants. Army-Navy personnel used on occasion and certification solved some selective service problems and although some drivers and field men lost, recent check shows ready replacement without loss in production. Wage differential complaint from dairy processor answered by suggesting apply for WLB increase and receive Office Labor support. Canning of Fruits and Vegetables: Urgency ratings assigned ALL processing plants anticipating labor difficulties...meeting with MMC so orders placed with USES get P.I.I. rating. Housing biggest factor in preventing recruitment of labor. Most labor free labor or part time military. Arrangement with military heads for help if emergency arises. Also Navy head agrees state office clears Naval personnel wishing part time work where no free labor available. Arrangement simple and successful. No reports to date of loss of food for lack of labor. Can get by with proper utilization of present labor within state with considerable planning and channeling.

ROPER romps throughout eastern Washington in a six page report highlighted by: Heavy Calves Slaughter - Appreciable number veal cattle going to slaughters not to feeders for lack of financial incentive to fatten. Industry believe '46 - '47 beef being lost and suggest live ceiling to prohibit sale beef calves without hindering sale dairy calves. Meat for Mexicans - shortage in Walla Walla area alleviated by increased quotas of non-federal local plants. Fruit Situation - less car shipment of apples and pears, slight increases for peaches, cots, cherries, plums and prunes estimated for Wenatchee-Okanogan district. Soap Dope - the recurrent 'soap to be rationed' rumor swept Spokane to be refuted through statement to press. WFO 131 - caused manufacturers and OPA to deluge office.... situation clarified. WFO 133 - sour cherry set aside caused numerous calls most referred to F&V, Portland but many handled of necessity. One case concerns man who has frozen cherries from practically all producers in Spokane valley, packed 96 tons last year. Cut to 25% of this amount this year he petitioned but was denied. (Ed. Note: Crop very short, order forcing cherries into can by 25% freezing restriction and 100% military take, no ceiling, and announced today another increase in grower price in Washington, 3 Idaho counties and Wyoming.) Rationing Problems - feeders met with OPA and exchanged views. OPA blames past ration holiday for present shortages and assures freer flow of meat and poultry within 60 days. Feeders pointed out increase cost without corresponding increase in ceiling...need for more red points...harvest workers, loggers, miners would not remain unless more food available in restaurants. Community Canneries - a survey of 7 centers - 4 operating, rest soon - and most enthusiastically sponsored and received. Funds for training workshops should be reinstated.

From TULLEY comes a three page report, 3 pages of attachments and 5 newspaper clips indicating the Journal is still capable of turning a mean phrase or two: Civilian Food Supplies - Red points needed for war workers with AFL and CIO joining the trade to ask for relief. Trade says foreign type cheeses backing up under points while manufacturing restrictions have been removed (Ed. Note: Restrictions reimposed July 15) Poultry black market subject vitriolic comment trade and press...many calls on rumored freeze which gets Tulley recommendation plus 3 to 4 cent increase to producer and compensating increase to processor and distributor. Lamb, perennial Oregon problem, boils down to labor in federally inspected which are at lamb handling capacity with present labor. Priority, USES, general recruitment no avail due to more favorable war job pay. However ad campaign planned and some Mexican nationals for plants if unions not too opposed. Best expansion of slaughtering is in Class 2 plants where quotas are below plant capacity but meat can't move inter-state. (Ed Note: As of yesterday July 16 quotas and inter-state shipment is eased if plant is certified. Also see LAMB - this issue.) Milk - meeting milk distributors, state department agriculture and OPA head OPA predict acute west coast shortage due to troop movements and advised industry to prepare for it. It was recommended that price schedules of the shed be simplified to eliminate unnatural diversion from one area to another. Freight Rate - Oregon awakened to what the ICC approved freight reduction of west bound packing house products really meant to western meat men and quickly laid the groundwork for postponement of the effective date of such reduction until the Price Control Act has expired. Figure new rate would reduce producer price on hogs \$1.00 a hundred in Northwest. Vet Program of FDAC - Tulley doubts program wisdom after conferring with Vets Administration but feels FDAC may offer services to Vets Admin. which claims there are already 62 government agencies, civic, religious and social organizations "promoting" the welfare of vets. (One Journal clip, an editorial which opened on this dignified, journalistic plane "After surveying and appraising, brain-cudgeling, analyzing, slide-rule-deducing, weighing and balancing -- plus not a little politico-psychological-Mother Goose face-saving--the czars of the American larder at last have decided to permit Americans to have butter again." - kind of took a journalistic drop in the second paragraph "With a broad gesture of condescension, the arbiters refectorum are graciously reducing the red-point value of butter from 24 to 20! It takes effect on July 29, by which time the stock piling up in warehouse and cooler can't get so very much more rancid than now. Four points saving. Hooray!" (Where did they get their misinformation and put it out for a fact, which is more than we did in our wire on this subject?))

At the last minute MIKE WILSON'S report completed the Northwest's records: Turkeys - We give you this one verbatim "Attempt to adjust the situation reported last week in connection with the turkeys of C.R. Stoll. A full report has been written the Dairy and Poultry Branch. This problem has involved conferences with OPA officials and poultry processors and no solution has yet been reached." Sour Cherries - activity has been in connection with releasing for freezing: Lard - trying to get more lard into Idaho for packers...recommended packers with army contracts to apply for set-aside lard...has relieved situation. Idaho Falls area finds two bakeries threatening to close for lack of lard. Allred helped get temporary relief through Ogden packing houses...trying to work out continuation of plan on percentage of past deliveries. Crops - excellent condition large fruit crop coming on market....despite short sugar no marketing difficulties.

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The spruce budworm is now present in alarming numbers in New York and Vermont.

